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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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| 10/642,403 | 08/18/2003 | James C. Bedingfield | BS98-036-CON | 9436 |
| 45695 | 7590 | 07/03/2007 | EXAMINER | |
| WITHERS & KEYS FOR BELL SOUTH P. O. BOX 71355 MARIETTA, GA 30007-1355 | | | ADDY, THJUAN KNOWLIN | |
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

| | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. | Applicant(s) |
| | 10/642,403 | BEDINGFIELD, JAMES C. |
| | Examiner | Art Unit |
| | Thjuan K. Addy | 2614 |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 August 2003 and 10 February 2004.
 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 26-50 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 26-50 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 18 August 2003 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
 6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

1. Claims 26-28, 31, 33-36, 40, and 42-50 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Bellovin et al (US 5,958,052).
2. In regards to claims 26, 35, 36, 46, and 47, Bellovin discloses a method, system, routing module, and control module for a communications network to restore private information to a communication directed to an out-of-network entity, comprising: removing the private communication information (e.g., IP addresses and domain names) from the communication and storing the private communication information (col. 2 lines 28-33, col. 2 lines 43-52, and col. 7-8 lines 63-7); forwarding the communication outside the network to the out-of-network entity (col. 2 lines 37-42 and col. 8 lines 1-7); receiving, into the network, an outgoing communication from the out-of-network entity; retrieving the private communication information and placing the private communication information into the outgoing communication; and forwarding the outgoing communication to a forwarding destination and terminating the communication to the

outgoing communication (Fig. 12, col. 4-5 lines 59-6, col. 7 lines 52-62, col. 8 lines 8-18, and col. 9 lines 18-24).

3. In regards to claims 27, 43, and 49, Bellovin discloses the method, system, and control module, wherein removing and storing the private communication information comprises: receiving the communication at a routing module and activating a trigger provisioned on the routing module; sending a query to a database at a control module in communication with the routing module; recognizing, at the control module, that the communication is to the out-of-network entity; and removing the private communication information using the control module, and storing the private communication information in a database (e.g., cache memory) in communication with the control module (See col. 4-5 lines 59-6).

4. In regards to claims 28, 31, 44, and 50, Bellovin discloses the method, routing module, and control module, wherein retrieving the private communication information and placing the private communication information into the outgoing communication comprises: generating a transaction identification, storing the transaction identification with the private communication information, and attaching the transaction identification to the communication, before forwarding the communication outside the network; activating a trigger provisioned on a routing module; sending a query to a control module in communication with the routing module; recognizing, at the control module, that the outgoing communication is from the out-of-network entity; and locating the private communication information using the transaction identification, and inserting the

private communication information in the outgoing communication (See col. 7 lines 52-62 and col. 8 lines 31-55).

5. In regards to claims 33 and 43, Bellovin discloses the method and routing module, wherein the external entity determines a forwarding destination according to an enhanced service that the external entity provides and initiates the outgoing communication to the forwarding destination (See col. 2 lines 34-42, col. 6 lines 6-17, and col. 7-8 lines 63-7).

6. In regards to claim 34, Bellovin discloses the method, further comprising: sending the outgoing communication to the forwarding destination; and terminating the incoming communication to the outgoing communication (See col. 2 lines 34-42 and col. 7-8 lines 63-7).

7. In regards to claims 40 and 48, Bellovin discloses the system and control module, wherein the out-of-network entity serves an enhanced service provider (See col. 6 lines 6-17).

8. In regards to claim 42, Bellovin discloses the system, wherein the out-of-network entity communicates with the routing module through an integrated services digital network basic rate interface (See col. 2 lines 34-42 and col. 7-8 lines 63-7).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

9. Claims 29, 30, 32, 37-39, and 41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bellovin et al (US 5,958,052).

10. In regards to claim 29, Bellovin discloses all of claim 29 limitations, except the method, wherein the outgoing communication is a call and the call includes a customized dialing plan code and the trigger is a customized dialing plan trigger. Bellovin, however, does disclose a communication, which involves data transfer, in which the data transfer instruction identifies the receiving device by its domain name, and the domain name must be translated into a corresponding IP address before the data transfer can occur. Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate these features within the method, as a way of removing and restoring private communication information, within a system, as a way of protecting the integrity of private communication information within the system.

11. In regards to claim 30, Bellovin discloses all of claim 30 limitations, except the method, wherein the out-of-network entity provides an enhanced service selected from the group consisting essentially of a call forwarding service, a call screening service, and an announcement service. Bellovin, however, does disclose a data forwarding

service (See col. 2 lines 34-42 and col. 7-8 lines 63-7). Therefore, it would have been obvious to include a call screening service and an announcement service.

12. In regards to claim 32, Bellovin discloses all of claim 32 limitations except the method, wherein the private communication information is a calling number and privacy indicator of the incoming communication. Bellovin, however, does disclose the method, wherein the private communication information is an IP address/domain name or privacy indicator of the incoming call (See col. 2 lines 34-42 and col. 5 lines 48-55).

13. In regards to claims 37, 38, and 39, Bellovin discloses all of claims 37, 38, and 39 limitations, except the system, wherein the first query prompts the routing module to remove and store the private call information from the call, to generate a transaction identification, to store the transaction identification with the stored private call information, to attach the transaction identification to the call, and to send the call to the out-of-network entity. Bellovin, however, does disclose the system, wherein the first query prompts the routing module to remove and store the private communication information from the call, to generate a transaction identification, to store the transaction identification with the stored private communication information, to attach the transaction identification to the communication, and to send the communication to the out-of-network entity (See col. 7 lines 52-62 and col. 8 lines 31-55).

14. In regards to claim 41, Bellovin discloses all of claim 41 limitations, except the system, wherein the out-of-network entity receives an incoming call, places an outgoing call, and terminates the incoming call to the outgoing call to complete a call connection. Bellovin, however, does disclose the system, wherein the out-of-network entity receives

an incoming communication, places an outgoing communication, and terminates the incoming communication to the outgoing communication to complete a communication connection (See col. 2 lines 34-42 and col. 7-8 lines 63-7).

Conclusion

15. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Bellovin et al (US 5,805,820) teach a method and apparatus for restricting access to private information in domain name systems by redirecting query request.
16. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thjuan K. Addy whose telephone number is (571) 272-7486. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8:30-5:00pm.
17. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ahmad Matar can be reached on (571) 272-7488. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

18. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



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Patent Examiner
AU 2614